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concerning me in the Weather Bureau files on this matter, I must ask to register herewith, in the same files, my indignant denial of any friendly feeling toward or sympathy for the imperial German government and my abhorrence of its official acts. I also repudiate indignantly the suggestion that I have, or could have, anything in common with what is now currently known as "Germanism."

It should not be necessary, but I once again do protest my sincere, genuine and undivided loyalty to the United States and to its government, its ideals, and particularly its published objects in this war. The most searching inquiry of my own acts and feelings fails to reveal to me any deficiency in this respect. It is well known to you that I have subscribed to the extent of my ability to the second and third liberty loans, to the Red Cross and its work, and to other activities.

You are, yourself, convinced of the truth of my statements, and, as you do not wish to see an unjust disgrace laid upon the name I bear, I believe you will aid my efforts to secure the common justice of an opportunity to learn from the Secretary of Agriculture the charges collected against me and to answer them fully in his presence.

GROVE KARL GILBERT

IN the *Journal of Geology* Professor Thomas C. Chamberlin pays the following editorial tribute to the late Dr. Gilbert:

The passing of Dr. Gilbert after almost seventy-five years of activity deprives geological science of one of its ablest and most honored representatives. It is permitted to few men to leave an equally enviable record. To an unusual degree his work was distinguished by keenness of observation, by depth of penetration, by soundness in induction, and by clarity of exposition. It is doubtful whether the products of any other geologist of our day will escape revision at the hands of future research to a degree equal to the writings of Grove Karl Gilbert. And yet this is not assignable to limitation of field, or to simplicity of phenomena, or to restriction in treatment. The range of his inquiries was wide, his special subjects often embraced intricate phenomena, while his method was acutely analytical and his treatment tended always to bring into declared form the basal principles that underlay the phenomena in hand.

In the literature of our science the laccolith will doubtless always be associated with the name of Gilbert. In its distinctness as a type, in its uniqueness of character, and in the definite place it was

given at once by common consent, one may almost fancy a figurative resemblance between the laccolith and its discoverer and expositor. Gilbert's monographs on the Henry Mountains and on Lake Bonneville will long stand as unexcelled models of monographic treatment. His contributions to physiographic evolution, particularly his analysis of the processes that end in base-leveling, link his name with that of Powell, and give to these two close friends a unique place as joint leaders in interpreting morphologic processes. Glacial and hydraulic phenomena were also fields in which Gilbert's powers as an investigator and expositor were signally displayed.

In accuracy of delineation, in clearness of statement, and in grace of diction Gilbert's contributions are certain long to stand as models of the first order. His personality was of the noblest type; he was a charming companion in the field; he was a trusted counselor in the study. The high place he has held in the esteem of coworkers is quite certain to merge into an even higher permanent place to be accorded him by the mature judgment of the future.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE annual convocation meeting of the American Federation of Biological Societies will be held this year in Baltimore. The date of the meeting is from December 30 to January 1 inclusive. The federation includes the following national societies: The American Physiological Society, the American Society of Biological Chemists, The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, and the American Society for Experimental Pathology.

DR. J. M. T. FINNEY and Dr. William S. Thayer, chief consultants of the Medical Service of the American Expeditionary Forces, have received promotions advancing their rank from major to colonel. The following named officers have been promoted from major to lieutenant-colonel: Thomas R. Boggs, James T. Case, George W. Crile, Harvey Cushing, Joel W. Goldthwait, James F. McKernon, Charles H. Peck, Thomas A. Salmon, Hugh H. Young, N. Allison and E. L. Keyes.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH LEIDY, who has been instructor in gas defense and divisional gas officer of the 30th Division, Camp Sevier,